



# **CITY OF WHEELING**

## **RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**51 Sixteenth Street, 3rd Floor  
Wheeling, WV 26003**

22 January 2016

Mr. Robert Herron  
City Manager  
City of Wheeling  
1500 Chapline Street  
Wheeling, WV 26003

Mr. Herron:

2015-2016 has again proven to be an exciting year for the City of Wheeling Recreation Department. Once again we have provided a wide variety of activities for City of Wheeling residents.

Our programs all operate at a free or nominal fee. Very few cities across America can a child 12 and under swim at their city pool for .50, use a million dollar turf field in the heart of the city for NO fee, skate at a state of the art skate park for NO charge or attend a day camp at our city's parks with free transportation for NO charge. These are a few of the most attractive offerings. Many people young and old, from surrounding communities travel to Wheeling to specifically partake of these opportunities. We are very proud of OUR Recreation Department and with the city's financial backing are able to sponsor these activities which attract both young and old.

The Recreation Department has seen significant increases in our activities, especially at the 16th Street J.B. Chambers Complex. Not only has the turf field seen an increase in the demand for field time, but the basketball court and playground are also seeing increased activity. Usually increases in activity bring wear and tear, but because of the city's investment of a supervisor and equipment, the field and complex has remained in pristine condition.

The winter months have seen increased activity in several areas. The 16th Street Complex has become the home of the Coal Valley Rugby Team. February softball and baseball hitting and pitching clinics have attendees from all over the Ohio Valley.

22 January 2016  
Mr. Robert Herron  
Page 2

Our summer camps - baseball, softball, basketball and cheering saw an increase in attendance also. Our adult softball men and women's leagues saw a total of 100 teams register for the summer and fall seasons. Our fast pitch softball leagues have exploded this year with over 150 teams playing ball at I-470 during the spring, summer and fall seasons. Our free tennis program saw over 150 children take advantage of learning the basics of tennis through the efforts of Mr. Jerry Mulhern. Our jr. high and high school boys and girls shootouts and summer basketball leagues were again very successful with many out of town teams participating from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia.

The operation of our department has become a daunting task, not only with the many camps, clinics and programs offered by our department, but with the amount of hours that are needed to accomplish our goals. The three full-time positions in the Recreation Department work an exorbitant amount of overtime, not only Monday through Friday but weekends as well. These three positions have a combined total of 101 years in the City of Wheeling Recreation Department. We are a small staff that does a big job and we do it with a positive and friendly attitude! We have always tried to be good ambassadors for the City of Wheeling. As always, we are looking forward to another successful year in providing new and exciting programs that may benefit the community as a whole.

Sincerely,



Thomas Bechtel, Director  
WHEELING RECREATION DEPARTMENT

TB:bj

## **2016-2017 WHEELING RECREATION GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

1. To continue to upgrade our clinics and camps (basketball, baseball, softball and cheering to keep them at maximum levels of participation.
2. To improve the scheduling, planning, supervision and maintenance of the 16th Street Complex to allow for optional usage of the facility. Adding new users such as the Wheeling Recreation Soccer Camp, Wheeling Park Softball and baseball teams, West Virginia State Soccer Championships, Linsly football, baseball, lacrosse teams, West Liberty Soccer teams, O.V. Special Olympics groups and more will bring even more energy to the neighborhood. These new users have stimulated the complex's usage and will continue to do so in 2016.
3. To attempt to pursue more operational needs of the 16th Street Complex. In addition to newly acquired goal posts, benches and goals for various sports, we will continue to pursue other needs like scoreboard, seating, etc. to make it even more user friendly.
4. To work with interested groups to acquire advertising monies for our various parks, fields and complexes.
5. To continue to reface the Nelson Jordan Center with repairs, painting, gym floor refinishing and replacement and overall upgrade to provide our city residents, both young and old, with opportunities to help them pursue their health, fitness and recreational goals.
6. To continue to provide the Nelson Jordan Center's fun activities for our underprivileged youth. Holiday parties to celebrate Halloween and Christmas will once again provide recreational activities for our youth.
7. To upgrade our offerings at our four city pools to stimulate our rising attendance figures. Our Learn To Swim, Moonlight Swim, Senior Free Swim and Family Fun Nights provide this for all Wheeling residents.
8. To continue the vigilance, cleanliness, and overall upkeep of our facility at 16th Street as it heads into 2016 with our grounds supervisor and upgrades in equipment to aid in these pursuits.
9. Plan for the inevitable transition of the Recreation Department which will occur in the near future due to the retirement of all three full time employees. However, as you may already be aware, the Senior Staff Associate will not be eligible for Social Security and Medicare as she will have fifty years of service with the City of Wheeling in 2018 and has never worked for any other company. Therefore, to only live on a pension without any health care, would not be possible. The prospects of retirement are not very promising. These circumstances are the same for several other employees. If the City could look into helping with this situation or coming up with a solution, it would be greatly appreciated. To work for any company for fifty years is very rare in this day and age.

**CITY OF WHEELING**  
**DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017**

Department: Recreation

Department Head: Thomas Bechtel

LINE ITEM NUMBER & TITLE	CURRENT YEAR	PROPOSED BASE	NEW PROJECTS	BUDGET REQUEST	INCR- (DECR)	APPROVED
PROGRAM ASSOC. 4908-10-1228	\$30,445	\$30,445		\$31,445	\$1,000	
REC. DIRECTOR 4908-10-1230	\$39,361	\$39,361		\$40,361	\$1,000	
SR. STAFF ASSOC. 4908-10-1317	\$29,622	\$29,622		\$30,622	\$1,000	
BONUS/ATTENDANCE 4908-10-1523	\$2,250	\$2,250		\$2,250		
SOCIAL SECURITY 4908-10-1902	0	0		0		
TEMPORARY SALARIES 4908-10-1904	\$170,000	\$170,000		\$175,000	\$5,000	
LONGEVITY 4908-10-1905	\$2,964	\$2,964		\$2,964		
EYE/DENTAL/LIFE 4908-10-1920	\$2,593	\$2,593		\$2,842	\$249	
MEDICARE CONTRIB 4908-10-1924	\$18,359	\$18,359		\$18,359		
HOSPITALIZATION INS. 4908-10-1921	\$22,980	\$22,980		\$22,884	(\$96)	
LEAGUE OFFICIALS 4908-20-2105	\$6,000	\$6,000		\$6,000		
INSURANCE 4908-20-2134	\$6,253	\$6,253		\$6,253		
ADVERTISING 4908-20-2144	\$2,300	\$2,300		\$3,000	\$700	
OFFICE EQUIP MAINT. 4908-20-2145	\$1,500	\$1,500		\$1,500		
OFFICE RENT 4908-20-2147	\$10,400	\$10,400		\$10,400		
TRAVEL EXPENSES 4908-20-2153	\$600	\$600		\$600		
UTILITIES 4908-20-2167	0	0		0		
WORKER'S COMP 4908-20-2171	\$2,200	\$2,200		\$2,200		
TELEPHONE 4908-20-2173	\$500	\$500		\$500		
GRANT SERVICE NJC 4908-20-3111	0	0		0		
CONSUMER SALES TAX 4908-20-3111	\$2,400	\$2,400		\$2,400		
POSTAGE 4908-20-3146	\$2,000	\$2,000		\$2,000		

\*INCREASE IN THIS LINE ITEM IS DUE TO INCREASE IN MINIMUM WAGE AND MAINTENANCE WORKER AT 16TH ST. COMPLEX

**CITY OF WHEELING DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST  
FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017**

**Department: Recreation**

**Department Head: Thomas Bechtel**

[illegible]



# CITY OF WHEELING RECREATION DEPARTMENT

51 Sixteenth Street, 3rd Floor

Wheeling, WV 26003

22 January 2016

Mr. Robert Herron, City Manager  
City of Wheeling  
1500 Chapline Street  
Wheeling, WV 26003

Mr. Herron

The Recreation Department completed its 13th year of operating the J.B. Chambers Complex at I-470. Games, activities, clinics and camps fill the complex from mid-March through November 1. The complex was recognized as an outstanding park by the National Softball Association in 2012.

Last year was very successful in terms of usage and was our best year in terms of improvements and fund raising for the complex. **In 2015 we accomplished over \$100,000 in projects. All of these projects were privately funded. Projects include:**

- \*Completion of Press Box on Big Field
  - Including
    - 700 Feet of sewerage
    - 600 Feet of electrical underground
- \*Complete renovation of concession stand
- \*Renovation of press box at Lisa's Field
- \*Building mini-press box on Field #1
- \*All existing dugouts, press boxes, shelter and concession stand were painted this year
- \*secured donor who is building a new pony field including extensive site prep and grading. New project will include press box and dugouts built by donor. This will provide another quality field to the complex.

Each year we attempt to add improvements to provide a nicer and safer playing environment for all the boys and girls who play at I-470.

In equipment capital outlays, we are requesting one piece of replacement equipment. Existing equipment is 15 years old and in dire need of replacement.


22 January 2016  
Mr. Robert Herron  
Page 2

**We have completed an estimated \$600,00 in improvements to the I-470 Complex over the last decade at no cost to the city.** We will continue to seek donors and funding sources for improvements. This number obviously doesn't include the million dollar Miracle League Field.

All projects at the J.B. Chambers Complex have been funded by donations. We have worked aggressively in the past and will continue to make our facility the best fields for the youth of our community. Our budget requests are to allow us to maintain safe fields that the residents of Wheeling are proud to call their own.

Thank you for considering our requests.

Sincerely,



Thomas Bechtel, Director  
WHEELING RECREATION DEPARTMENT

TB:bj

**2016**

## **J.B. CHAMBER COMPLEX GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**1. Secure CDBG Funds to finalize the handicap accessibility for the entire complex since the Miracle Field has become a reality for all the special needs children. We need to continue to make the entire complex handicap accessible. This is our annual request. We hope that it can be funded when money becomes available. I-470 is an outstanding facility that features the Miracle Field for handicapped children. At the present time, only half of the complex is accessible to these children.**

**\*THE MIRACLE FIELD BECAME A REALITY IN 2013 BUT ONE-HALF OF OUR COMPLEX IS NOT ACCESSIBLE TO THOSE MIRACLE LEAGUERS TO WATCH THEIR SIBLINGS PLAY ON OTHER COMPLEX FIELDS.**

**2. Work with Chambers YMCA and Miracle League developers to provide a handicap accessible playground that will serve all.**

**3. To continue improvement to the American Legion Field.**

**4. Continue to development practice areas because of the demands for games and practices - actual field time is at a premium. With a recent donor secured, plans are to develop an additional batting cage, hitting areas and pitching mounds in areas between the fields. These additions will allow more teams access to our facility.**

**5. Work to extend and grow banner program in house..**

**6. Work with City Operations Department to continue to address drainage issues in complex. These have been major issues from day one. We have seen steady improvement with projects the last few years.**

**8. Secure major funding to light three fields that need lightning.**

**9. Development of a small field where practice field now stands.**



# CITY OF WHEELING DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST

## FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

Department: I-470 Ballfields

Department Head: Thomas Bechtel

LINE ITEM/NUMBER & TITLE	CURRENT YEAR	PROPOSED BASE	CAPITAL OUTLAY	REQUEST	INCR/DECRE	APPROVED
CONCESSION MGR. 4907-10-1900	\$9,000	\$9,000		\$10,000	\$1,000	
SOCIAL SECURITY 4907-10-1902	0	0		0		
TEMPORARY SALARIES 4907-10-1904	\$30,000	\$30,000		\$36,000	\$6,000	
CONCESSION EMPLOYEES 4907-10-1911	\$14,000	\$14,000		\$20,000	\$6,000	
MEDICARE CONTRI. 4907-10-1924	\$2,000	\$2,000		\$2,000		
CONCESSION EMPLOY. 4907-10-4171	\$1,500	\$1,500		\$1,500		
UTILITIES 4907-20-2167	\$20,000	\$20,000		\$20,000		
GRASS CONTRACT/HERBICIDE 4907-20-2207	\$9,000	\$9,000		\$9,000		
CONSUMER SALES TAX 4907-20-3111	\$4,000	\$4,000		\$4,000		
CONCESSION SUPPLIES 4907-30-3110	\$32,000	\$32,000		\$35,000	\$3,000	
PROGRAM SUPPLIES 4907-30-3150	\$12,000	\$12,000		\$15,000	\$3,000	
CAPITAL OUTLAYS 4907-40-4151	0	0		\$23,500	\$23,500	
CONTRIB. TO CERF 4907-50-5126	0	0		0		
CONCESSION MGR. 4907-10-4170	\$480	\$480		\$480		

INCLUDES INCREASE OF MINIMUM WAGE TO ALL WORKERS BY LAW

CITY OF WHEELING

DEPARTMENT: I-470 CHAMBERS BALLFIELDS

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST

FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

PROGRAM/PROJECT	COST	PRIORITY*	JUSTIFICATION/EXPLANATION
1	2	3	4
<p>TORO INFIELD PRO W/ATTACHMENTS (THIS IS THE 3 WHEELED FIELD GROOMER WHICH LOGS THOUSANDS OF HOURS ON ALL OF OUR FIELDS. IT CONDITIONS AND ALLOWS US TO MAINTAIN OUR FIELDS TO A SAFE LEVEL OF PLAY).</p>	<p>\$23,500</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>TORO IS 15 YEARS OLD AND IS IN DIRE NEED OF REPLACEMENT. PURCHASE WOULD ALLOW US TO CONTINUE OUR PRESENT LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE. DUE TO AGE OF MACHINE, IT REQUIRES EXTRA MAINTENANCE.</p>